REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 8 and 9 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 1-7 and 14-16 are allowed.

Claims 8-13 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Onodera, U.S. Patent 6,181,435. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 8 recites receiving a first image data; obtaining a second image data by developing the first image data; printing using the second image data; comparing a first time required for developing the first image data and a second time required for printing with the second image data; storing the first image data if the first time is shorter than the second time based on the result of the comparison, wherein the first image data is a printer language data. According to claim 8, the time required for developing the printer language data is considered. The printer language data of claim 8 corresponds to the page description data of Onodera.

The process described in claim 8 is effective when printing more than two copies of the same image and this image is printed again some intervals concerning print processing in response to receiving page language data. Specifically, considering a time required of developing a printer language data and judging whether storing data is requested enables efficient printing. When compression and expansion processing are applied, it is naturally possible to compare the times while considering the respective times for compression and expansion processing.

Onodera discloses comparing between a time required for expanding compressed raster data and a transfer time. Onodera never considers the time required for developing page language data, as claimed. Rather, page language data is developed into coded raster data in steps S302-S305 of Fig. 3. This corresponds to the claimed data developing. In step S307, a decision is made whether to store raster image is shown. However, this decision is not made based on the time it

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takes to develop the page language data into the coded raster data. Thus, the features of claim 8 are not disclosed or suggested by Onodera.

Claims 10 and 13 recite substantially the same feature as recited in claim 8, and are allowable for the same reasons.

Claims 9, 11 and 12 are allowable at least due to their respective dependencies

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 325772014000.

Dated: June 28, 2004   Respectfully submitted,

By _Deborah S. Gladstein (signature)_

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